

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05

IO-11 USIA-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AF-06 EA-07 OES-03 FEA-01

FRB-03 JUSE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 SP-02 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01

/122 W

----- 122368

R 122118Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2357

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS OECD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USUN NY 981

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: EAID, EFIN EAGR VE

SUB: LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND

FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)

REF: STAE 59054

1. EMBASSY ECON COUNSELOR DISCUSSED IFAD ON MAR 11 WITH DR JULIO CESAR GIL, GOV REPRESENTATIVE TO IFAD PREPARATORY MEETINGS. GIL WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE VENEZUELAN CONGRESS, WHICH CONVENED MAR 3, WILL PROMPTLY RATIFY THE OPEC AID FUND. GIL SAID THAT VENEZUELA IS PRESSING HARD AGAINST BUREAUCRATIC OBSTACLES FOR A MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE OPEC FUND TO CONSIDER THE CONTRIBUTION TO IFAD. GIL DOUBTS, HOWEVER, THAT MORE THAN ONE-HALF OF THE OPEC FUND'S RESOURCES (\$800 MILLION) WOULD BE ALLOCATED TO IFAD.

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2. ACCORDING TO GIL, VENEZUELA WILL CONTRIBUTE \$112 MILLION

TO THE OPEC FUND. THE GOV WILL SUPPORT A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION BY THE OPEC FUND TO IFAD, ACCORDING TO GIL, BUT WILL NOT MAKE A DIRECT CONTRIBUTION TO IFAD. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOV BELIEVES ITS CONTRIBUTION TO IFAD THRU THE OPEC FUND WILL BE GENEROUS BY ANY STANDARD, EXCEEDING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FAR WEALTHIER INDUSTRIAL NATIONS, INCLUDING THE FRG. THE VENEZUELAN PUBLIC AND CONGRESS WOULD NOT SUPPORT A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION TO IFAD UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, ACCORDING TO GIL.

3. GIL WAS HOPEFUL THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD BE WILLING TO SUPPORT IFAD WITH A SUBSTANTIAL DIRECT CONTRIBUTION, BUT HAD NO INFO TO CONFIRM THEIR WILLINGNESS TO DO SO. HE BELIEVES THAT THE US IS MISTAKEN IN ITS IMPRESSION THAT IRAN HAD BUDGETED \$20 MILLION FOR A DIRECT CONTRIBUTION TO IFAD (PARA 5, REF).

4. GIL SAID THAT VENEZUELA HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL REQUESTING A PLEDGE TO IFAD. VENEZUELA'S PLEDGE MUST BE IN RESPONSE TO THE SG'S LETTER - NOT BEFORE.

COMMENT

THE EMBASSY SEES NO PROSPECT THAT THE GOV WILL PLEDGE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO IFAD BEYOND ITS SHARE OF THE STILL UNDETERMINED AMOUNT TO BE PLEDGED FROM THE OPEC FUND. THE VENEZUELAN PUBLIC IS INCREASINGLY CONCERNED THAT VENEZUELA'S FINANCIAL RESOURCES, HOWEVER AMPLE THEY ONCE APPEARED, WILL NOT SUFFICE TO CARRY OUT THE NATION'S AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT PLANS.  
SHLAUDEMAM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FUND ALLOTMENT, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)  
**TAGS:** EAID, EFIN, EAGR, VE, IFAD  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006